Amendments to the Claims:

1-2. (cancelled)

3. (currently amended) The portion ~~method~~ of claim 17 ~~2~~, wherein said portion has two opposing surfaces and contains fibers that are substantially normal to said opposing surfaces.

4. (currently amended) The portion ~~method~~ of claim 17 ~~2~~, wherein said portion has two opposing surfaces and contains fibers that are substantially parallel to said opposing surfaces.

5. (currently amended) The portion ~~method~~ of claim 17 ~~2~~, further comprising: applying at least one electrode to each opposing surface.

6. (currently amended) The portion ~~method~~ of claim 5, wherein a plurality of interdigitized electrodes are applied.

7. (currently amended) The fiber assembly ~~method~~ of claim 16 ~~1~~, wherein laminating said planar layers comprises interleaving planar layers of varying fiber characteristics.

8. (currently amended) The fiber assembly ~~method~~ of claim 7, wherein said layers of varying fiber characteristics have different fiber concentrations.

9. (currently amended) The fiber assembly ~~method~~ of claim 7, wherein said layers of varying fiber characteristics have fibers of different average diameters.

10. (currently amended) The fiber assembly ~~method~~ of claim 7, wherein a different set of electrodes is applied to said layers of varying fiber characteristics.

11. (currently amended) The fiber assembly ~~method~~ of claim 16 ~~1~~, wherein said layers have substantially similar fiber characteristics.

12. (currently amended) The fiber assembly ~~method~~ of claim 16 ~~1~~, further comprising poling said sectioned portion.

13. (currently amended) The fiber assembly ~~method~~ of claim 16 ~~1~~, wherein said piezoelectric material is at least one of PZT (lead zirconium titanate), lead niobate (PbNbO6), lead titanate (PbTiO3), barium titanate (BaTiO3), sodium bismoth titanate (pure or co-doped), lead based ceramics doped with lanthanum, tin, or niobium, electrostrictive materials, memory piezoelectric materials, or relaxor materials.

14. (currently amended) The fiber assembly ~~method~~ of claim 16 ~~1~~, wherein each opposing side of said portion has an area greater than about 1.5cm2.

15. (currently amended) The fiber assembly ~~method~~ of claim 16 ~~1~~, wherein the variation of fiber concentration in no greater than about 20%/cm3.

16. (currently amended) A fiber assembly made from a ~~the~~ method of manufacturing a fiber assembly, said method comprising:
providing a plurality of layers, each layer comprising sintered fibers of piezoelectric material aligned substantially parallel;
laminating said plurality of layers; and
applying a matrix material to the laminated layers to affix said layers and form a fiber assembly of ~~claim 1~~.

17. (currently amended) A portion made from ~~the method of claim 2~~ a method of manufacturing a fiber assembly, said method comprising:
providing a plurality of layers, each layer comprising sintered fibers of piezoelectric material aligned substantially parallel;
laminating said plurality of layers;

applying a matrix material to the laminated layers to affix said layers and form a fiber assembly; and

sectioning said portion from said fiber assembly.

18-20. (cancelled)